



State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

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NEWS RELEASE
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BEAR LAKE LANDOWNERS CAUTIONED ABOUT POTENTIAL PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Federal and state officials are urging lakeside landowners to exercise caution prior to beginning any construction or other alterations and activities near or adjacent to Bear Lake. A permit may be required for such projects, including certain activities in wetlands below the ordinary high water mark of the lake.

"There is a very real chance that landowners could commit serious infractions of federal and state laws and regulations while working below the ordinary high water mark," said Kelly Allen, sovereign lands coordinator for the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands. "We encourage anyone who plans work near the lake to first contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, or the Idaho Department of Lands."

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the states of Utah and Idaho have jurisdiction over lands below the ordinary high water mark of the lake. That high water mark is generally at 5,923.65 feet in elevation (UP&L Datum). The Corps also has jurisdiction on wetlands above that level.

Examples of activities needing a permit include, but are not limited to, construction of boat ramps, docks, seawalls, temporary occupancy of sovereign or trust lands, placement of fill into waters, streams, marshes, or any wetland areas, replacement of piers, and boat dock maintenance.

For additional information contact:

For properties on the Utah half of Bear Lake:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, (801) 295-8380, extension 16.
Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, (435) 752-8701

For properties on the Idaho half of Bear Lake:

Idaho Department of Lands, (208) 525-7167.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 208-522-1645 or 208-522-1676

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Press Contact:

Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, Kelly Allen 435-752-8701
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Corey Loveland 801-295-8380 ext 16 (for private land in Utah)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Rob Brochau 208-522-1645 or
James Joyner 208-522-1676 (for private lands in Idaho)
Idaho Department of Lands Pat Brown 208-525-7167